

Northeast Ohio Disc Golf Alliance Charter & ByLaws

Mission Statement:

The Northeast Ohio Disc Golf Alliance (NEODGA) is an alliance of clubs with the mission to pool support and coordinate the programs among its member clubs and courses to enhance the growth of disc golf in Northeast Ohio.

General:

The Northeast Ohio Disc Golf Alliance (NEODGA), as a regional presence, provides an organized opportunity to unite individual Northeast Ohio Club activities, interests, and resources for the advancement and expansion of disc golf in Northeast Ohio.

The geographic region defined as Northeast Ohio mirroring ODNR District 3 boundaries. Including the following counties –

Ashtabula	Cuyahoga	Lake	Richland	Wayne
Carroll	Geauga	Lorain	Stark	
Columbiana	Harrison	Mahoning	Summit	
Coshocton	Holmes	Medina	Trumbull	
	Jefferson	Portage	Tuscarawas	

Purpose:

Coordinate the members' efforts in matters of:

- Promote course development, improvement, and maintenance
- Coordinate program and event scheduling and development
- Communication with members, clubs and courses, the community, the respective park departments, and other organizations.

Provide club members an organization:

- To promote disc golf membership and participation locally and regionally
- To voice their opinions and participate in a disc golf organization
- To provide credibility with park departments, potential sponsors, and the PDGA
- A resource to aid in expand disc golf in local communities

To associate the clubs of northeast Ohio into one unified front:

- To help the smaller clubs and new organizations get established
- To provide a uniform standard for regional golf activities and initiatives
- Strengthen regional presence to the broader disc golf community.

Membership:

Affiliated Club

- This is the foundation for the association.
- Must have established leadership structure and active course presence.
- Support PDGA policies and practices
- Membership is non-transferable.
- Optional Insurance coverage when available.

Benefits:

Affiliated Club

- NEODGA Fiscal year membership in the Northeast Ohio Disc Golf Alliance.
- Club receives incentive discounts for alliance merchandise.
- Entitled to full voting rights (3 voting representatives per club) for NEODGA initiatives
- Entitled to inclusion in NEO Affiliated Club Membership for club membership
- Optional - Sponsored events covered under any active general liability insurance policies.

Dues Schedule:

Affiliated Club	\$ 20 per year (waived w/ series and/or event participation)
Affiliated Club w/ Insurance	TBD
NEODGA Initiatives (Event /Series)	\$ 1 per player minimum
At Large member	\$ 5 per year

Responsibilities:

Affiliated Club

- Maintain affiliated club status and dues.
- Support the Alliance, its sponsors, and its members and friends.
- Promote NEODGA player membership
- Maintain up to date and accurate contact information.
- Attendance to semi-annual meetings.
- Established leadership structure of a formal club and active course presence
 - Club Structure
 - Regularly elected officers
 - Conduct annual meeting

Suspension of Membership:

Suspension shall be deemed by a majority vote of the NEODGA Officers. The suspended member may address the association and/or respective affiliated club for reinstatement. A 2/3 quorum must be present at the meeting and a positive simple majority vote will be required for reinstatement. During a suspension, the suspended party loses alliance privileges and voting rights. There will be NO reimbursement of NEODGA dues.

Suspension of Membership (continued):

A member may be suspended by the Club Board for any of the following:

- Inappropriate behavior towards members of the disc golf community based on their gender, race, sexual orientation, physical abilities, and/or any form of derogatory/hate speech.
- Repeated unsportsmanlike conduct, such as: cursing, throwing objects in anger, excessive displays of anger, overt rudeness, threats, or willful physical harm to anyone present.
- Willful destruction or harming of park property, plant life, wildlife, or course equipment.
- Cheating: A willful attempt to circumvent the rules or record incorrect scores.
- Stealing: A willful attempt to steal from another member of the disc golf community or the club.
- Rude and/or aggressive behavior towards club leadership or league directors.

Operational Procedure:

The Association shall conduct meetings and business in a parliamentary manner with voting representatives electing Officers who then conduct club business based on the Affiliated club input.

- A quorum of 50% must be present in order to conduct a vote. A quorum can also be met by the presence of 2/3 of the standing Alliance officers or if meeting notice has been posted with a minimum of thirty (30) day notice.
- A simple majority is required to pass or deny a resolution.
- A 2/3 affiliated club majority is required to pass or deny a Referendum, amend the Charter, or to reinstate a suspended member or officer.

Club Meetings and Elections:

- Semi-annual Meetings held at predetermined location. Typically held in Spring and Fall
- Annual Meetings: The alliance shall plan annual meeting November timeframe. The annual meeting shall consist of the election of officers (during voting years), voting for Referendums or Charter changes, membership polls, and events scheduling and planning. (Elected officers may begin duties *immediately after annual meeting* but no later than the first scheduled meeting following the annual meeting, typically March.)
- Council Meetings: Supplementary meetings of the NEODGA officials to discuss long range goals, appointments, special projects, or emergency situations.
- Special Elections may be called requiring a 2/3 quorum in person, electronic, or written vote to replace or add an officer. The remaining officers may appoint a temporary officer if needed.
- Absentee Voting: Members who are unable to attend a meeting may submit an absentee vote for matters of interest to them by submitting their opinion / vote to the *NEODGA President and/or Vice President* in writing or electronically prior to the meeting. This does not replace the member's duty to attend meetings.
- Each Affiliated club is allotted up to three (3) votes with one (1) vote for a pre-determined at-large representative not associated with a particular club but an active NEODGA player member.

General:

All official NEODGA activities shall be overseen by an alliance officer. It shall be the duty of all elected officers to best serve the alliance and to fulfill their responsibilities. Officers are required to attend semiannual meetings. Only active affiliated club or at large representative may be elected and hold office. An officer may be removed from office by a 2/3 vote by the alliance.

Officers and Committees:

NEODGA Representatives shall have a right to vote on any matters of Alliance. The executive positions shall be elected seats with two (2) year terms. The officers serve the board of directors, and all operational procedures apply. Committees are temporary appointments of NEODGA activities assigned to a particular initiative pursued by the NEODGA.

President: The President shall schedule, create agendas, and preside over association meetings. The President will also act as directional lead for NEODGA.

Vice President: The Vice President will coordinate committee activities, act as a substitute for the NEODGA President, monitor activities of the treasurer, and be the key contact to reach out to new clubs for inclusion into the NEODGA.

Communications Director: The Communications Director shall be responsible for contacting and communicating with all NEODGA affiliated clubs, NEODGA members, the state PDGA representative and the PDGA. This includes official communications by internet, mailings, e-mails, postings, meeting minutes and voting activities.

Treasurer: The Treasurer shall manage fundraisers and raffles and disperse common association funds. This officer shall oversee and coordinate all sponsorship efforts. This officer shall provide financial status reports. Treasurer will coordinate official NEODGA merchandise distribution.

Competition Director: Responsible for coordinating, providing direction, and monitoring reoccurring NEODGA competitive initiatives. Initiatives may include but not limited to regional events series and multicourse leagues.

Examples: Frozen Fingers, NEO Point Series

Special Events Coordinator(s): The Special Events Coordinator is responsible for oversight of special NEODGA programs. The director should be creating opportunities to expose the public to disc golf in the region and provide both complete and recreational opportunities under the name of NEODGA. *Appointed position(s).*

Example: Urban Disc Golf – Downtown Akron, Regional Workday Events

Growth and Development Director(s): This position focuses on player segments to meet specific needs of gender, age, or skill specific player groups. The Growth and Development Director should work closely with Programming Director and individual NEO clubs to promote ideas and programs.

Examples: Senior Games, Player clinics

All appointments and committees shall be selected from player members in good standing with the Alliance and respective affiliated club.

Committees, affiliated clubs, and/or player members should not to assume use of NEODGA name, assets, logos, and logoed merchandise without permission of NEODGA officers.

Current NEODGA Board Members:

- Michael Knepp – President
- Jon Gensel – Vice President
- PK Deaner – Competition Director
- Tori Cutlip – Finance Director
- Aren Payne - Communications Director

Club Board of Directors (continued)

- Any board member who resigns will have a replacement appointed by the Board for the remainder of the term.
- Any board member may be removed by a majority vote of all members sitting on the Board whenever, in the judgment of the Board, the best interests of the NEODGA would be served thereby.
- Additional Board positions may be added as necessary but shall require an amendment to these bylaws as described herein.
- Board members shall serve NEODGA on a strictly voluntary basis with no monetary or material compensation. Reimbursement of expenses incurred on behalf of the NEODGA by Board members will be paid by NEODGA funds.
- No board member shall be personally liable for any debts or liabilities of the Club in general, unless said Board Member's acts or omissions, causing such debts or liabilities, involve willful or wanton misconduct. No board member shall gain any personal profit from the actions of the Club.

Rev 8 – Revised 5/27/2024

Approved _____

Signed: _____ Michael Knepp - President

Signed: _____ Jon Gensel - Vice President

Signed: _____ Tori Cutlip - Finance Director

Signed: _____ PK Deaner - Competition Director

Signed: _____ Aren Payne – Communications Director